



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

2010-2011

School Year Calendar



WHO WE ARE

- We are 45,000 students committed to graduating from high school, prepared for college and work.
- We are 4,000 teachers determined to live up to our unparalleled role in ensuring the achievement of our students.
- We are 125 principals who demonstrate the vision to build positive school communities focused on academic achievement.
- We are 2,300 classroom aides, social workers, counselors, custodians, and other support staff who understand that our students must be safe, healthy, and supported in order to achieve at the highest possible levels.
- We are countless parents and family members supporting our children and demanding a high-quality education for them.
- We are more than 1,000 community organizations and thousands of volunteers who provide support for our students and staff in their daily work to achieve excellence.
- We are the residents of Washington DC, who know that a strong school system and high achieving students are the backbone and the future of this city.

All work at DCPS is fueled by
a set of Core Beliefs.
We expect every adult in the
system to act in accordance
with these beliefs every day.

WHAT WE BELIEVE

- All children, regardless of background or circumstance, can achieve at the highest levels.
- Achievement is a function of effort, not innate ability.
- We have the power and the responsibility to close the achievement gap.
- Our schools must be caring and supportive environments.
- It is critical to engage our students' families and communities as valued partners.
- Our decisions at all levels must be guided by robust data.



MAYOR ADRIAN FENTY

There is nothing that makes me feel the responsibilities of being mayor more than walking into a classroom. The children I meet there will be driving our city's work in future years, and their potential was what motivated me to make schools the top priority of this government. I can't imagine what the responsibility must feel like for teachers, whose daily work will shape children's lives, build their dreams, and create the foundation for a city's prosperity.

My primary goal in meeting my responsibilities as mayor is to create a world class school system for every family in the District of Columbia. In my walks through our neighborhoods, it is clear to me that this community is as grateful as I am for the tireless educators who are helping to make it happen. They enter their classrooms undaunted by the challenges they face, setting high expectations for success and working with families to help children meet them.

Nothing could be more important for our city. Thank you to all of our teachers.

Who was the best teacher you've ever had? What was it that made this person so important in your life? While I've been fortunate to have some great teachers, for me it was my high school English teacher. He was a bit quirky, and he must have needed a lot of energy to handle our class, as all the papers he returned to us were covered in rings of coffee stains! I wasn't the highest performing student in the class, and I had to work hard to keep up with my peers. But just as he did for every student in the class, he saw what was unique in me and drew it out, challenging but supporting me at every turn.

Great teachers have a gift for seeing every child's potential and persevering to turn it into achievements and wise choices. As a struggling school district we face many challenges, but we also have incredible teachers in our classrooms, empowering students to overcome the obstacles that otherwise could keep them from realizing their dreams. These teachers are the solution to the most vexing problems we face, and I am grateful for the indelible impressions they are making right now in children's lives.



CHANCELLOR MICHELLE RHEE


H.D. WOODSON SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

“MRS. WILLIAMS HAS
A LOT OF EXPERIENCE
WHICH ENABLES HER TO
USE DIFFERENT LEARNING
STYLES...SHE MOTIVATED
ME TO DO MY BEST.”

— KENNETH THOMAS



AUGUST 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 12-month Employees Report Back	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 New Teacher Orientation	12 New Teacher Orientation	13 New Teacher Orientation	14
15	16 Professional Development Day for Teachers and Aides	17 Professional Development Day for Teachers and Aides	18 Professional Development Day for Teachers and Aides	19 A.M.: Professional Development P.M.: Teacher Classroom Prep	20 Teacher Classroom Prep	21
22	23 First Day of School for Students	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	<div><div>DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS</div><div>dcps.dc.gov (202) 442-5885</div></div> <div>Hours of operation for schools and programs can vary. Please contact each school or program for details</div>			




DOMINIQUE HOLSEY,
PRE-K TEACHER
ISIS LUWAAN & NIVIA TIMLICK,
KINDERGARTNERS
TYLER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

As a young child, I always dreamed of being a teacher. One of my favorite pastimes was playing school, always vying to be the teacher. I truly enjoyed school, and admired my teachers. My affinity to learning along with my mother being an educator and the profound impact and influence of a high school teacher all compelled my decision to become a teacher. I firmly believe that education must be free, public and of equal and high quality. I believe that, regardless of background, my students have more in common than not, and that they all can learn.

“I LIKE HIM
BECAUSE HE HELPS
US SAY WORDS THAT
WE CAN’T SAY.”
— NIVIA TIMLICK

SEPTEMBER 2010

Sunday		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <div>DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS dcps.dc.gov (202) 442-5885</div>				1	2	3	4
5	6 Labor Day No School for Students, Teachers, and Staff	7	8	9 Rosh Hashanah	10 Eid ul-Fitr Grandparents Day	11	
12	13	14	15 Hispanic Heritage Month Begins	16	17 Professional Development Day for Teachers and Aides No School for Students	18 Yom Kippur	
19	20	21	22	23 First Term Midpoint	24	25	
26	27	28	29 Chancellor's Community Forum: Cleveland Elementary School, 6:30 - 8:00 P.M.	30	Back to School Nights are scheduled by each school during September or early October.		




AMANDA SIEPIOLA,
SECOND GRADE TEACHER
JOSEPHINA “JOSIE” GREEN &
DENNIS KONGOLI,
THIRD GRADERS
HORACE MANN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

I tap into their curiosity about what’s around them and try to do my part in helping them become grown-ups who will find their own passions and fight against those things that they think are unjust. I believe that all children who enter my classroom are smart, capable, interesting and creative. I want them to be exactly who they are, and to celebrate and love whatever that may be. I believe that they can do and become anything that they want, and that it’s my job to guide and help them along the way.

“SHE TEACHES US
A LOT SO WE LEARN
REALLY GOOD, BUT
SHE’S REALLY FUN
IN SCHOOL.”
— DENNIS KONGOLI

OCTOBER 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <div>DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS</div> <div>dcps.dc.gov (202) 442-5885</div>					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11 Columbus Day No School for Students, Teachers, and Staff	12	13	14 Chancellor’s Office Hours: Johnson Middle School, 6:00 - 8:00 P.M.	15 Hispanic Heritage Month Ends	16
17	18 Parent Conference Day No School for Students	19	20	21	22	23
24 Halloween 31	25	26	27 Chancellor’s Community Forum: Burroughs Education Campus, 6:30 - 8:00 P.M.	28 End of First Term Records Day 12:15 PM Student Dismissal	29 Professional Development Day for Teachers and Aides No School for Students	30




GWENDOLYN MARTIN,
THIRD GRADE TEACHER
RICKIA PARKS, FOURTH GRADER
SAVOY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

One of the greatest rewards in teaching is witnessing a student’s “aha moment.” I am happiest when I am helping children grow academically – when I see them absorb the skills I’ve presented to them. I became a teacher to shape and change the lives of children to enable them to become lifelong learners and productive citizens in their communities. I believe that all children can learn and achieve when placed in a classroom with high expectations – and where the school, family and community join together in partnership for the best interests of the child.

“SHE’S KIND. SHE HELPS STUDENTS NO MATTER WHAT. SHE’S VERY EASY TO TALK TO.”
— RICKIA PARKS

NOVEMBER 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 Daylight Saving Time Ends	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10 Chancellor's Office Hours: Walker Jones Education Campus, 6:00 - 8:00 P.M.	11 Veterans Day No School for Students, Teachers, and Staff	12 Report Cards Issued	13
14	15	16	17 Chancellor's Community Forum: Drew Elementary School, 6:30 - 8:00 P.M.	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 Thanksgiving Day No School for Students, Teachers, and Staff	26 Thanksgiving Break No School for Students and Teachers	27
28	29	30	<div><div>DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS</div><div>dcps.dc.gov (202) 442-5885</div></div>			

National American Indian
Heritage Month


JONATHAN JOU, ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE TEACHER
MO LAM & MIN HUANG, EIGHTH GRADERS
YUXI LIU, SEVENTH GRADER
JEFFERSON MIDDLE SCHOOL

My grandfather was a high school principal, my father was a college professor for 35 years and my mother was a high school teacher for 30 years. This family legacy inspired me to become a teacher. I believe an ESL teacher is here to help students go through the transition to living in this country. As a member of this community, I'm very glad that I can promote students educational success. I believe all my students can realize their American dreams.

“MR. JOU ALWAYS TOLD US TO
DO OUR BEST TO BE
SUCCESSFUL IN THIS COUNTRY,
JUST LIKE HE DOES HIS BEST
TO HELP US OUT ON
WEEKENDS TO MAKE SURE
WE’RE SUCCESSFUL IN THE
AMERICAN SCHOOL SYSTEM.”
— MO LAM



DECEMBER 2010

Sunday		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <div>DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS <small>dcps.dc.gov (202) 442-5885</small></div>				1	2 Hanukkah Begins	3 Second Term Midpoint	4
5	6	7	8	9 Chancellor's Office Hours: Seaton Elementary School, 6:00 - 8:00 P.M.	10	11	
12	13	14	15 Chancellor's Community Forum: Brightwood Education Campus, 6:30 - 8:00 P.M.	16	17	18	
19	20 Winter Break No School for Students and Teachers	21 Winter Break No School for Students and Teachers	22 Winter Break No School for Students and Teachers	23 Winter Break No School for Students and Teachers	24 Winter Break No School for Students, Teachers, and Staff	25 Christmas	
26 Kwanzaa Begins	27 Winter Break No School for Students and Teachers	28 Winter Break No School for Students and Teachers	29 Winter Break No School for Students and Teachers	30 Winter Break No School for Students and Teachers	31 Winter Break No School for Students, Teachers, and Staff		

MICHAEL TAYLOR,
WORLD HISTORY TEACHER
JONATHAN HILL, SOPHOMORE
MCKINLEY TECHNOLOGY HIGH SCHOOL


I became a teacher because I believe the best way to create a stronger, better, more viable community is through great education. My students inspire me to work harder, never give up and try new things. I believe my students will someday lead this world into a better tomorrow. I believe my students have proven and will continue to prove to anyone that anything is possible. I believe my students will be thinkers, innovators, competitors and leaders.

“HE’S HONEST. HE DOESN’T KEEP ANYTHING BACK. HE’S MY FAVORITE TEACHER AND I NEVER REALLY LIKED HISTORY. HE’S NOT JUST SAYING, ‘WHAT CAN I TEACH YOU?’ HE’S ALSO SAYING, ‘WHAT CAN YOU TEACH ME?’”

— JONATHAN HILL



JANUARY 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <div>DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS</div> <div>dcps.dc.gov (202) 442-5885</div>						1 New Year's Day
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13 Chancellor's Office Hours: Beers Elementary School, 6:00 - 8:00 P.M.	14 Professional Development Day for Teachers and Aides No School for Students	15
16	17 Martin Luther King Jr. Day No School for Students, Teachers, and Staff	18	19	20	21 End of Second Term Records Day 12:15 PM Student Dismissal	22
23 <div></div> 30	24 <div></div> 31	25	26 Chancellor's Community Forum: School Without Walls High School, 6:30 - 8:00 P.M.	27	28	29




GINEA BRIGGS, ENGLISH TEACHER
JOY SCOTT, 11TH GRADER
SCHOOL WITHOUT WALLS

Teaching is a way for me to share and, hopefully, motivate students to consider literature, writing and cultures in a way that will stay with them for years to come. Children need to be given room and space to learn who they are going to be. My hope is that they walk out of my classroom having learned something new about the subject matter and themselves. My students are more talented than I will ever know. In a year, I always hope to create at least one assignment that will allow every student in my class to show off the amazing way he or she learns or produces a product. I strive to give students a space where they risk showing us their gifts.

“MS. BRIGGS EXPECTS THE BEST FROM HER STUDENTS AND IN TURN SHE GIVES HER BEST TO US.”
— JOY SCOTT

FEBRUARY 2011

Sunday		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 dcps.dc.gov (202) 442-5885			1	2	3	4 Report Cards Issued	5
6	7	8	9	10 Chancellor's Office Hours: Deal Middle School, 6:00 - 8:00 P.M.	11	12	
13	14 Valentine's Day	15	16	17	18 Professional Development Day for Teachers and Aides No School for Students	19	
20	21 President's Day No School for Students, Teachers, and Staff	22 Third Term Midpoint	23 Chancellor's Community Forum: J.O. Wilson Elementary School, 6:30 - 8:00 P.M.	24	25	26	
27	28 Parent Conference Day No School for Students						


CHARITO TURNIGAN, TEACHER, PRIMARY LEARNING CENTER
WALLACE ISON, STUDENT
MAMIE D. LEE SCHOOL

My mother influenced me to become a teacher. She spent 36 years as a public school teacher, and I was inspired by her dedication and hard work. I know that teaching students with special needs is no easy task. However, I believe that every student in my class has potential to learn to his or her maximum level. As a special education teacher, I must maintain a positive attitude, remain enthusiastic and be dynamic in providing quality instruction to help my students overcome obstacles...it is a rare happiness to join a child in his struggle to learn a new skill, and then see him applying it successfully to real life situations.

“SHE’S A
GOOD TEACHER.
SHE MAKES
SCHOOL FUN.”
— WALLACE ISON



MARCH 2011

Sunday		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div><div>DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS</div><div>dcps.dc.gov (202) 442-5885</div></div>			1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9 Chancellor's Office Hours: Wheatley Education Campus, 6:00 - 8:00 P.M.	10	11	12	
13 Daylight Saving Time Begins	14	15	16	17 St. Patrick's Day	18 Professional Development Day for Teachers and Aides No School for Students	19	
20	21	22	23	24	25 End of Second Term Records Day 12:15 PM Student Dismissal	26	
27	28	29	30 Chancellor's Community Forum: Burrville Elementary School, 6:30 - 8:00 P.M.	31	National Women's History Month		

MARJORIE MCCLURE,
PHYSICAL EDUCATION TEACHER,
LAFAYETTE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
CLAIRE RUPPERT,
SEVENTH GRADER, EDMUND BURKE SCHOOL

My passion for teaching, movement and learning started as a youngster working and playing in the parks of Washington, D.C. As a child the only thing that I wanted to do was explore. I knew even then that physical education just wasn't what it could have been. P.E. class just wasn't taught with movement in mind. Each student is unique and needs to be challenged and motivated in different ways.

“SHE’S VERY CREATIVE AND SHE TRIES TO INSTILL FUN. WE PLAYED THINGS LIKE ‘THE GREAT AMERICAN SNOWBALL FIGHT’ AND ‘THE HULA THROW-DOWN.’ ”

— CLAIRE RUPPERT



APRIL 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <div>DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS</div> <div>dcps.dc.gov (202) 442-5885</div>					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8 Report Cards Issued	9
10	11	12	13	14 Chancellor's Office Hours: Whittier Education Campus, 6:00 - 8:00 P.M.	15 Emancipation Day No School for Students, Teachers, and Staff	16
17	18 Spring Break No School for Students and Teachers	19 Passover Begins Spring Break No School for Students and Teachers	20 Spring Break No School for Students and Teachers	21 Spring Break No School for Students and Teachers	22 Spring Break No School for Students and Teachers	23
24 Easter	25 Spring Break No School for Students and Teachers	26	27 Chancellor's Community Forum: Tubman Elementary School, 6:30 - 8:00 P.M.	28	29	30

ERIC BETHEL,
FIFTH GRADE TEACHER,
MARIE REED ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
DANIELA ORELLANA,
SIXTH GRADER, HARDY MIDDLE SCHOOL


I look at learning as one of life’s most essential steps towards happiness. Therefore, facilitating opportunities for children to learn is an act of love and nobility. I’ll always want to commit that act. I believe in building a classroom culture that provides students with an opportunity to think and share their thinking. And, I believe that my students can be more brilliant, innovative, successful, and caring than one can even imagine if we give them great learning opportunities.

“HE’S A VERY GOOD TEACHER. HE’S VERY EXCITING. HE’S ALWAYS INTO MATH. IF I HAVE A HARD TIME IN SCHOOL, HE MIGHT HELP.”

— DANIELA ORELLANA



MAY 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Teacher Appreciation Week	3	4	5	6	7
8 Mother's Day	9	10 Fourth Term Midpoint	11	12 Chancellor's Office Hours: Thomas Elementary School, 6:00 - 8:00 P.M.	13	14
15	16 Parent Conference Day No School for Students	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 Chancellor's Community Forum: Ellington School of the Arts, 6:30 - 8:00 P.M.	26	27	28
29	30 Memorial Day No School for Students, Teachers, and Staff	31	<div><div>DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS</div><div>dcps.dc.gov (202) 442-5885</div></div>			

Asian Pacific American
Heritage Month




JACQUELINE DOUGLAS, PRE-K TEACHER
TOIAN JENKINS, FIFTH GRADER
DACIAN JENKINS, THIRD GRADER
PAYNE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

I became a teacher because I truly believe that I can positively impact the lives of young children and build a strong foundation for educational success. I believe that all of my students have the potential for greatness.

“SHE WAS A PERSON WHO REALLY TOOK THE TIME TO SEE WHERE YOU ARE. AT THAT AGE, YOU’RE SO IMPRESSIONABLE. SHE ALWAYS SAID, ‘BE A LEADER, NOT A FOLLOWER.’ IT’S IMPORTANT AT THAT AGE TO HAVE SOMEONE CONTINUOUSLY TELL YOU THE RIGHT THING TO DO.”

— JANEE FARMER, GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY (NOT PICTURED)

JUNE 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <div>DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS dcps.dc.gov (202) 442-5885</div>			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9 Chancellor's Office Hours: H.D. Cooke Elementary School, 6:00 - 8:00 P.M.	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17 Last Day of School End of Fourth Term Records Day 12:15 PM Student Dismissal	18
19 Father's Day	20 School Closing Makeup Day, if Necessary	21 School Closing Makeup Day, if Necessary	22	23	24	25
26	27 First Day of Summer School	28	29 Chancellor's Community Forum: Kramer Middle School, 6:30 - 8:00 P.M.	30		


SHARIFA EDWARDS,
WORLD HISTORY TEACHER
PATRICIO JUAREZ &
ANA VENTURA-FUENTES,
11TH GRADERS
COLUMBIA HEIGHTS EDUCATION CAMPUS

There is no greater thrill than working relentlessly to plant the seed of learning within a child, and then watching them grow...I love that, through education, I am not only teaching children history content but, more importantly, I am giving them options and opportunities to be better than their given circumstances. As teachers, we have the ability to change the world one child at a time. I believe that each and every child is able to learn and achieve at the highest levels.

“SHE GIVES YOU THE MATERIALS AND THE CURRICULUM, BUT ADDS SO MUCH TO IT IN A WAY YOU CAN UNDERSTAND... SO THAT YOU CAN EXPLAIN IT TO ANYBODY.”
— ANA VENTURA-FUENTES



JULY 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div><div>DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS</div><div>dcps.dc.gov (202) 442-5885</div></div> <div>Summer School Ends Friday, August 5th</div>					1	2
3	4 Independence Day No School for Students, Teachers, and Staff	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 31	25	26	27	28	29	30

GET INVOLVED, STAY INVOLVED

- Volunteer in one of DC's highest need schools
- Join your school's parent organization – PTA, PTO, HSA
- Mentor a student
- Facilitate internship opportunities for secondary school students
- Attend parent/teacher conferences and community meetings

Contact your school to learn more.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND US

At your child's school

<https://octo.quickbase.com/db/bfi aj2fnm?a=q&qid=9>

There are staff members at every school ready to provide you with the latest information on how we can all work together to help your child learn.

On the phone

dcps.dc.gov/DCPS/About+DCPS/Office+Directory

Never hesitate to call if you have questions or concerns at (202) 442-5885.

On the web

www.dcps.dc.gov features the most up to date DCPS information as well as great stories from our schools.

At Community Meetings

DCPS offers numerous opportunities for parents and community members to provide input to DCPS leadership and learn more about DCPS initiatives.



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
PUBLIC SCHOOLS